CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An electromagnetic contactor, comprising:

a plurality of main contact [[point]] points, each for one of a plurality of phases, and each including a pair of fixed contacts opposed to each other and a movable contact for bridging the space therebetween, wherein ~~the neighboring~~ at least two of said plurality of main contact points are disposed adjacent to one another and have therebetween an interphase barrier, and

an emission path along an inner wall face of said interphase barrier for arc gas created when [[the]] a main contact point of said plurality of main contact points is opened or closed, the emission path having, ~~at the middle thereof~~ upstream of an emission window, a concave section at the inner wall face of the interphase barrier.

2. (Currently amended) An electromagnetic contactor ~~according to Claim 1~~, comprising:

a plurality of main contact points, each for one of a plurality of phases, and each including a pair of fixed contacts opposed to each other and a movable contact for bridging the space therebetween, wherein at least two of said plurality of main contact points are disposed adjacent to one another and have therebetween an interphase barrier, and

an emission path along an inner wall face of said interphase barrier for arc gas created when a main contact point of said plurality of main contact points is opened or closed, the emission path having, upstream of an emission window, a concave section at the inner wall face of the interphase barrier,

wherein the concave section consists of a narrow groove perpendicular to the emission path of the arc gas.

3. (Currently amended) An electromagnetic contactor according to Claim 2 wherein the inner wall face of the interphase barrier at [[the]] an upstream side of the ~~arc gas emission path~~ concave portion is recessed from the inner wall face at a downstream side ~~so as to sandwich the concave section~~ thereof.